

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 16-19 and 21 as follows. A marked-up copy of the claims, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

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16. (Amended) An element having a surface at least a part of which is provided with a polymer compound,

wherein said polymer compound is a material that is:

(a) either soluble in a solvent or has a main skeletal structure different from the material composing at least a portion of said part of said surface;

(b) comprised of a first part having a functional group and a second part having the interfacial energy different from that of said functional group and approximately equal to the surface energy of said part of said surface, and said second part is oriented toward said part of said surface and said first part is oriented in the direction different from that of said part of said surface; and

(c) obtained by bonding finely fractionalized polymers with each other after being finely fractionalized by a catalyst for polymer cleavage.

17. (Amended) An element as set forth in claim 16, wherein said element has a circular part at least partially composed of a curved plane, which is coated with said polymer compound.

18. (Amended) An element as set forth in claim 16, wherein said part of said surface of said element is composed of an olefinic resin and said polymer compound is a polyalkylsiloxane having a hydrophilic group.